

Intra-mural Sports Becoming Popular

Coach Russell Plans Touch Football For Next Year's Program

RIVALRY KEEN

By Rod Tuach

Hats off to Coach Lake Russell and his colleagues for the fine work they have done in establishing a strong intra-mural sports program here at Mercer University.

Coach Russell was appointed athletic director last spring and immediately set his mind to the problems of activity for the Mercer students. Since the erection of Porter Hall, Mr. Russell has been able to construct a physical education program that affords to the inactive student a chance to secure the necessary exercise for healthy bodies. Arising from this program came the intra-mural sports which since then have taken a strong hold upon the student body.

Last spring Coach Russell established an intra-mural softball league in which nine teams participated from the various branches of campus organizations. A silver trophy was awarded to the Alpha Lambda Tau fraternity which defeated the Kappa Sigma fraternity for the championship.

Much good natured rivalry has grown up between the competing teams and between the spectators, which all led to the fun of the program.

Due to the lack of facilities, Coach Russell was unable to continue intra-mural activities until after the fall quarter at which time basketball was introduced.

There were several teams entered in this department. The Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity defeated the Phi Delta Theta's to win the championship. Coach Russell presented the winning team with a beautiful trophy.

A high degree of interest and enthusiasm was shown in the recently completed basketball program. This is a very encouraging sign and a gratifying one to those responsible for its existence. Coach Russell stated "I am planning to have intra-mural touch football and volley ball this fall. It is my intention to have a year around intra-mural program so that the student not connected with competitive athletics will have an outlet for excess energy."

The second year of intra-mural softball began last week and more interest has been shown than last year. There are ten teams entered and each team will play each other twice. That means that each team will play three games a week for six weeks. It also means vigorous, wholesome exercise for some 150 men three times a week for six weeks.

The trophy for this tournament will be on display at the Tattnell Square Drug Store.

SILHOUETTE

Continued from page 1

is editor, while Clyde Calhoun, Annie Wheat Jones, and Harry Hudson are on the editorial board of control. Bayne Barfield is business manager.

Next issue of The Silhouette is due at the press soon and the deadline for all copy has been set at 3:00 p. m. Tuesday, May 2. Articles dealing with humorous and serious subjects in addition to editorials, fiction and cartoons will be included in the May issue, Bailey said.

1938 Basketball Team Has Highly Successful Year

Cagers Spring One Of Season's Major Surprises, Go To Conference Finals

The basketball team of 1938 will long be remembered as one of the surprise teams of Mercer sporting history.

To begin the season, Coach Lake Russell had some good material but it was of the unproven nature. Back from the previous year were Harold Irwin, Bubber Lawrence, Pepper Martin, Kenyon Sellars, and Doc Kirksey. The newcomers were Allen Martin, Neal Allen, Robert Dillard, and Al Gerhardt.

Russell held the position of head coach for the first eight games, at the end of which time other duties necessitated his turning the team over to Coach Cotton Harrison. Up to this time the Bears had won three games and had lost 5. Two of these losses were to Ga. Tech and two were to Mississippi College, the ultimate winner of the Dixie Conference title.

When Harrison took charge he inaugurated a system which began to work with perfection, the two team system. Soon after, the Bears tackled the Chattanooga Moccasins in the most interesting series of the year at Porter Hall. The first night Mercer pulled away in the last few moments to win 40-30. However, the next night it was in the last few seconds that the second team forged ahead to win by one point.

In the last game before the tournament Mercer entertained the Georgia Bulldogs here, and won 34-24. This victory established the team for the season and Coach Harrison took a determined and confident bunch of boys to Jackson, Mississippi for the annual Dixie Conference Tournament.

Mercer lost in the pairing round and the home supporters lost the last hope for their team. But the basketballers were to prove themselves worthy of wearing the Orange and Black. They met Loyola, one of the two favorites of the tourney, and won 47-39. The next night the Bears played the Millsaps and fans were almost certain that the Millsaps would win. Again the dark horse came through and Mercer advanced to the finals with a 45-42 victory. Here, in a hard fought game Mississippi College won 47-42.

For their outstanding play and sportsmanship Harold Irwin was selected on the all-conference team as center and Allen Martin was selected at forward on the second team. With the rest of the boys, they made up a team that was by far the most popular in the tournament.

During the regular season Mercer won seven and lost six games, and scored 238 points to the opponents' 231. In the tournament the Bears won two and lost two games, and were the runner-up team. Total scoring in the tournament was Mercer 174, opponents 170.

"Aw, please, come on."
"No."
"Aw, don't be like that."
"No, not this time."
"Please, be a good sport."
"No, Johnny, you can't go barefooted this early in the spring."



(Above) A scene from the Mercer-State Teachers football game last fall which Mercer won, 77 to 0. (Below) A part of the furious action which characterized the Mercer-Georgia Tech basketball games the past season.

'Cotton' Harrison To Leave Mercer

Bear Basketball Coach, Line Tutor Resigns; Former Bruin Grid Star

John "Cotton" Harrison, Mercer football line coach for the past two years and coach of the 1938 basketball team, announced his resignation from the Mercer coaching staff, effective immediately.

Harrison was a star end on the great 1933 Mercer football team which held both Army and Navy to close scores and played both teams on even terms for the first half. It was the same team that gave Georgia a genuine scare before losing, 13 to 12.

Harrison's basketball team won seven and lost six games during the regular season, one of the wins being a ten point victory over the University of Georgia. His team lost to Mississippi College in the finals of the Dixie Conference tournament after having eliminated seeded teams from Loyola and Millsaps.

He is particularly noted for the punt protection which he taught his linesmen. This protection was very effective, permitting only one blocked punt during the 1937 season. He developed such fine linesmen as Rainey, Gerhardt and Jones.

He said that he had made no definite plans for the future, but that he would probably accept a coaching position with some high school or junior college.

GRADE AVERAGES

(Continued from Page 1)

In the honorary groups Kappa Phi Kappa was first; Sigma Epsilon, with 2.272 was second; while Cardinal Key, honorary women's fraternity, was third with 2.216. Phi Eta Sigma, freshman honor society, came next with 2.146; Blue Key, honorary men's fraternity next with 1.870; then Alpha Psi Omega, dramatic fraternity, with 1.672.

In sororities, Alpha Delta Pi led with 1.902; Phi Omega was second with 1.766; and Theta Sigma Beta third with 1.640. Alpha Delta Pi's pledges also led with 1.883; Phi Omega's were next with 1.444; then Gamma Theta Sigma Beta's with 0.750.

In the fraternities, Phi Delta Theta led with 1.858; Sigma Pi was next with 1.671; and Alpha Tau Omega was third with 1.613. The other fraternities in order were Pi Kappa Phi 1.516; Pi Kappa Alpha 1.491; Kappa Alpha 1.233; Kappa Sigma 1.152; and Sigma Alpha Epsilon 0.735.



Sports Highlights By ART BARROW

Looking back over the files, we find a number of notable bits of experting and prognostication under the heading of this column.

On February 11, we did a very clever bit of experting along the billiard line. We made it quite obvious that the mysteries of the cue game were not really mysterious at all to us. On Wednesday afternoon we absorbed a thorough shellacking in the finals of a tournament down at the Sports Palace.

On February 18, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Pi Kappa Phi, and Phi Delta Theta were in a tie for the intra-mural league lead. We picked Phi Delta Theta to win the championship. So SAE won it.

On March 25, we counted the defending softball champions from Alpha Lambda Tau out of this year's pennant race. Today, the ALT's are right up there with the leaders.

On April 8, we picked Phi Delta Theta to win the Pan-Hellenic basketball tournament. We counted SAE out and said that Pi Kappa Alpha did not have a chance. SAE won the championship in an overtime game with Pi Kappa Alpha. Kappa Sigma and Pi Kappa Phi teams that we had given a chance to upset Phi Delta Theta, were eliminated in the first round of the tournament.

We could go on indefinitely, giving examples of our clever bits of prophecy. But why boast?

Maybe we should have learned our lesson, but here we go right back out on the limb. We predict that this year's softball race will be a dogfight between Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Alpha Lambda Tau, and Kappa Sigma with the latter team, which is now in a wild scramble for the cellar position, emerging on top. Why do we do such things?

Well, we are merely giving one man's opinion. Anyone is entitled his own opinion. Ours is based on the fact that the three teams named appear to have the best fielding, the best pitching, and the most power at the plate. And of the three, we believe that our choice has a little more of the qualities named. Good pitching, good fielding, and good hitting. What more could one ask of a team?

Bears Face Hard Grid Slate With Bright Outlook

Sophomores Depended Upon Heavily; Only Eleven Lettermen Return

Coach Lake Russell drew the curtain last week on what he termed "Mercer's most successful spring football practice in years." Coach Russell was especially pleased with the showing made by the large group of sophomores in the practice games.

With the return of eleven letter men and this large group of sophomore recruits, the future looks bright for the Mercer football team. During spring practice Coach Russell weeded a large squad of 53 men down to a smooth-working machine of 39. Veterans' Tuach, Mattox, Kumsse, Cline, Gillon, and Landrum are expected to see much action in the backfield next season; however, such recruits as Yon, Howland, Pledger and Pride are making a vie for starting backfield position.

The line is supported by letter men Rainey, Lawrence, Gerhardt, Jones, and Allen and recruits Richter, Slappey, Love, Thompson, Alley, Thomas, Smith, Tannas, Mazanek, and O'Quinn. Coach Russell's imported material has added much weight to the line.

Last year's squad of only 23 men turned in a fine performance of four wins and five losses. The season was started with a bang when Owen and Bazemore ran wild against S.G.T.C. to run up a score of 77-0 in a night game. The next week in Atlanta the Yellow Jackets of Georgia Tech were held scoreless in the first half but a margin gained in the first half gave them the points which spelled victory.

The next week the Bears lost to Howard because of a wet ball that was dropped behind the goal line. In Columbus the following week, Birmingham-Southern completed a pass into the end-zone in the final quarter to win 7 to 0.

The annual Georgia-Mercer game was played in Athens, October 23. The Bears held the Bulldog line until the All-American famed Lumpkin looked like a substitute scrub player. The game yardage and first downs were almost the same, but Mercer was on the short end of the score.

Revenge came at last. Oglethorpe played Mercer in Macon Homecoming day. The Bears playing before a capacity crowd defeated the Petrels 13 to 6. After a week's rest, the Bruins invaded Tampa University as the underdogs. The ever-faithful Bears, although crippled by injuries, emerged victorious 20 to 0. Thanksgiving day, however, brought a defeat at the hands of Chattanooga.

According to the schedule announced for the fall of 1938, Wofford; Tulane; Mississippi College; and Miami University replaced Statesboro, Tampa University, and Howard. Following is a schedule of the 1938 Mercer games:

- Sept. 23: Wofford, in Macon.
- Oct. 1: Ga. Tech, in Atlanta.
- Oct. 7: Birmingham-Southern, in Columbus.
- Oct. 22: Tulane, in New Orleans.
- Oct. 28: Oglethorpe, in Macon.
- Nov. 4: Presbyterian, in Macon.
- Nov. 11: Mississippi College, in Macon.
- Nov. 18: Miami U., in Miami (tentative).
- Nov. 24: Chattanooga, in Chattanooga.